

IN THE DRAWINGS

Enclosed herewith is a NEW SHEET of drawing containing new Figs. 12A and 12B.

Also, Applicants propose to amend Figs. 2 and 3, and to revise the numbering of the drawing sheets in accordance with the accompanying ANNOTATED SHEETS SHOWING CHANGES.

Enclosed herewith are REPLACEMENT SHEETS in which the above changes have been incorporated.

REMARKS

Enclosed herewith is a Substitute Specification in which the specification as filed (with the previously submitted Abstract) has been amended in various places to correct typographical errors. In addition, the specification as filed has been amended to add a brief description of new Figs. 12A and 12B, and to add references thereto in the specification. In addition, the Abstract has further been amended such that it is now less than 150 words.

In support of the above, enclosed herewith is a copy of the specification as filed (with the previously submitted Abstract) marked up with the above changes.

The undersigned attorney asserts that no new matter has been incorporated into the Substitute Specification.

The claims have been amended to more clearly define the invention as disclosed in the written description. In particular, the claims have been amended for clarity.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,545,958 to Hirai et al. in view of U.S. Patent 7,064,900 to Fukasawa et al. The Examiner has further rejected claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirai et al. in view of Fukasawa et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0118427 to Hendriks et al.

Applicants submit that pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 102(e), Fukasawa et al. is an improper reference. In particular, while Fukasawa et al. bears a PCT filing date of November 19, 2002 (prior

to Applicants' priority date of December 30, 2002), since the PCT filing was not published in the English language (see WO2003/044784 enclosed), the earliest date for Fukasawa et al. is the §371(c)(1)(2)(4) Date of April 14, 2004. Applicants further note that Applicants are entitled to the priority date of December 30, 2002, in that a certified copy of the priority document, EP02293262.8, was filed by WIPO in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on January 7, 2004, and this priority document is in the English language.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that all of the rejections referencing Fukasawa et al. must fall.

Applicants believes that this application, containing claims 1-6, is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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